MR. D. FRANCIS (*Nominated*) I say that even if there is sufficient rain the turn system is adopted. I want to know what the reason is.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): As regards the policy of the Government in the disposal of tank-beds no useful tank-bed has been sold. Tank beds are sold only after careful examination.

Midwives from the Depressed Classes.

49. **MR. K. MADHAVAN** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of midwives trained from among the depressed classes during the last three years (1100-1102); and

(*b*) the number among them who are now employed by the Government?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Five.

(*b*) All the five are now in service.

MR. K. MADHAVAN (*Nominated*): தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பிலிருந்து எத்தனை பேரை மிட் ஒய்ப் (midwife) கிளாஸில் எடுத்து தேற்சிபெற செய்திருக்கிறீர்களென்றதற்கு, 5-பேரை எடுத்து தேற்சிபெற செய்திருக்கிறீர்கள் என்று பதில் கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. ஆனால் எந்தெந்த ஸ்தலங்களில் அவர்களை நியமித்திருக்கிறீர்கள் என்று அறிவித்தால் நலமென்று விரும்புகிறேன்.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That information is not available now.

Restoration of Irrigation Tanks in South Travancore.

50. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the strong feeling in South Travancore that the Kodayar Reservoir is not sufficient for the existing wet cultivation because of the frequent failure of the monsoon which has become very acute this time (Karkatakam 1103); and

(*b*) whether they propose to take any steps for the restoration of the irrigation tanks?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*a*) of interpellation No. 48.

(*b*) Important tanks have been and are being taken up for improvement and repair which are carried out as needed either under the maintenance grant or under special estimate.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Are the Government aware of continued hardships experienced by the people of South Travancore for want of water supply ever since the construction of the Kodayar Reservoir?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It is only for the last two years that there has been an inadequate rainfall and consequently shortage of water.

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MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): May I know what is the total number of acres of wet lands under the commanded area?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Newly converted lands would come to eight to nine thousand acres.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Will the member be pleased to state the number of acres of tank beds sold?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That is what I have been answering now.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): What is the total number of acres sold?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That information is not available.

PRESIDENT: On questions requiring statistical information it is not possible for the Government to reply off hand on the point.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Will the member be pleased to state the names of tank beds which have been and are being taken up for improvement in the two taluks of Tovala and Agastisvaram?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(1) Pranthaneri tank.
(2) Balasundari tank.
(3) Veeramarthandan Puthur tank.
(4) Amaravathi tank.

These have been taken up. Steps have been taken up to improve the following tanks also.

(1) Puthukulam, (2) Melakadukkakulam (3) Maringur Periakulam, etc.

Filling up of Vacancies in the Revenue Department.

51. MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many of the permanent places in the Revenue Department that fell vacant consequent on the reversion of Assistant Tahsildars to their substantive posts were filled up by raw men from outside overlooking the claims of those with long service in the Revenue Department?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of permanent posts that thus fell vacant showing the names of persons who were permanently appointed to those places with their respective duration of service in the Revenue Department when they were so appointed?

(3) Will the Government be pleased to consider the advisability of giving preference, in future, to those in service as and when vacancies arise?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(1) The answer is in the negative.

(2) A list* with the required particulars is laid on the table.

(3) Preference is being given to those who are in service already.

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